

To: Tauyan, Agnes T CIV CNRH, N00PA[(b) (6)]
From: Higuchi, Dean
Sent: Fri 10/2/2015 2:23:31 AM
Subject: FW: Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

Thanks!

Dean Higuchi

Press Officer/Congressional Liaison/Public Affairs

US EPA, Region 9, Hawaii Office

higuchi.dean@epa.gov

808-541-2711

From: Higuchi, Dean
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 4:17 PM
To: Linder, Steven; Pallarino, Bob; Huetteman, Tom; Shalev, Omer; Sugerman, Rebecca; keith.kawaoka@doh.hawaii.gov; 'Okubo, Janice S.'; steven.chang@doh.hawaii.gov; roxanne.kwan@doh.hawaii.gov; thu.perry@doh.hawaii.gov; Richard Takaba (richard.takaba@doh.hawaii.gov); Zito, Kelly; Mogharabi, Nahal
Subject: FW: Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

FYI, Anita from Honolulu Civil Beat called wanting reaction to this and State Sen. Laura Thielan's just issued news release both critical of the Final AOC. I answered her questions about timing and choosing tech. but didn't offer counter point to either of the press releases.

Will send Thielan's next.

Thanks!

Dean Higuchi

Press Officer/Congressional Liaison/Public Affairs

US EPA, Region 9, Hawaii Office

higuchi.dean@epa.gov

808-541-2711

From: Anita Hofschneider [<mailto:ahofschneider@civilbeat.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 4:05 PM

To: Higuchi, Dean

Subject: Fwd: Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

Here's the Sierra Club press release. Let me know if you have any additional comment. Thank you!

Best,

Anita

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Wiens <rwiens@civilbeat.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 3:48 PM

Subject: Fwd: Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

To: Anita Hofschneider <ahofschneider@civilbeat.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marti Townsend, Sierra Club of Hawai'i <hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org>

Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 3:45 PM

Subject: Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

To: Sophie <scocke@civilbeat.com>

News from the Sierra Club of Hawai'i

[View this email in your browser](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: Director
Marti Townsend, [808-372-1314](tel:808-372-1314)

Sierra Club Calls on Navy to Retire Historically Leaky Fuel Tanks under Red Hill

Navy-EPA Agreement to Retrofit and Monitor Tanks is Inadequate

Honolulu October 1, 2015 -- Sierra Club of Hawai'i Director, Marti Townsend, expressed extreme disappointment in Governor Ige, the U.S. Navy, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, for agreeing to a settlement widely criticized for not doing enough to protect O'ahu's drinking water from historically leaky fuel storage tanks beneath Red Hill.

"The Navy should not be allowed to take unacceptable risks like this with our water," said Townsend. "The tanks have already leaked, future leaks are foreseeable, and there no is way to treat leaks before contamination reaches our water, so the only reasonable course of action is to retire the storage tanks."

"Public safety dictates we take the most precautionary course of action," said Townsend. "Hawai'i's Commission on Water Resources, Honolulu's Board of Water Supply, 18 legislators, and hundreds of residents expressed serious concerns about the inadequacy of the Navy's proposed agreement. Yet, their substantive recommendations were not adopted in the final agreement."

"It is misleading to say that these historic tanks comply with current state and federal requirements for underground storage tanks because these tanks are exempt from the most meaningful requirements, such as double-lining," said Townsend.

The Sierra Club's research into the Red Hill situation found that these 70-year-old tanks cannot be brought into compliance with current standards for underground storage tanks.

Copyright © 2015 Sierra Club of Hawai'i, All rights reserved.

"This means the Navy cannot ensure that fuel released from these tanks will be contained before it reaches the environment, " said Townsend. In addition, Sierra Club found that there are no known methods for removing jet fuel from bedrock, which surrounds the tanks.

"The reality is that adding more monitoring wells around the tanks is itself a risk because drilling could fracture the bedrock, creating new cracks that lead the fuel directly to our underground drinking water aquifer," Townsend added.

"There is no justification for exposing the people of Hawai'i to this kind of risk," Townsend said. "The U.S. Navy and the industries that rely on these fuel reserves should immediately identify new storage arrangements that comply with today's strict environmental standards and retire these historic tanks."

###

Copyright © 2015 Sierra Club of Hawai'i, All rights reserved.

You're receiving this email because of your interest in breaking news about the environment in Hawai'i.

Our mailing address is:

Sierra Club of Hawai'i

P.O. Box 2577

Honolulu, HI 96803

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#) [join our list](#)

.

--

Anita Hofschneider

Reporter at [Honolulu Civil Beat](#)

Office: 808.737.2300

Cell: 808.373.6678

Twitter: [@ahofschneider](#)